

B-3150 - B-3159  
801-833 William St. (East side)  
Baltimore, Md.  
Private access

1850-1857

The majority of the houses lining this side of the 800 block of William St. are three story, two or three bay wide brick houses with gable roofs. Like the similar houses across William St. and around the corner on Warren Ave., these houses were built for a middle class market and are larger and more spacious than the average two story plus attic house built for the working class inhabitants of the neighborhood. 801 William St. is now a corner grocery store and the original gable roof has been replaced by a shed roof. 803 William St. is one of only two Classical-Revival style, bow-fronted brick houses with brownstone trim in the area, the other being 804 William St., directly across the street. 811-817 William St. are three story, two bay wide shed-roofed houses, built as a unit in 1857, an early use of the shed roof in this area. The row of houses at 819-833 William St. was built by Nicholas Popplein, at the time the proprietor of a chemical manufactory at the foot of Cross St. and who later became an extremely wealthy resident of Eutaw Place and important chemical, paint, and varnish manufacturer.

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-3155  
MAGI 0431552504

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

811-817 William St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

#### PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION****CONDITION**

— EXCELLENT  
 X GOOD  
 — FAIR

— DETERIORATED  
 — RUINS  
 — UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

— UNALTERED  
 X ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

X ORIGINAL SITE  
 — MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This row of three story, two bay brick houses with shed roofs was built in the late 1850's as a unit. All of the facades have been covered with formstone.

The houses are three stories in height, 15' wide, and occupy lots 77' deep. The houses are one room deep with a three story high, one bay wide and deep stair hall extension which connects the main house to a three story high, two bay deep rear addition followed by a two story high, two bay deep addition. 811 William St. has an extra one story high, one bay deep frame addition; 813 William has an extra two story high, one bay deep brick addition; and 817 William is three stories high for its entire depth, the height of the rear addition having been increased. The houses are constructed in running bond but all of the facades have been covered with formstone. The shed roofs have no cornices. Each house has a hooded rear end chimney located at the east end of the rear addition.

The houses currently have a mixed array of lintel types and it is difficult to judge just which type was original to the houses. All of the second and third floor window openings (except for those at 817 William St.) have flat lintels. The lintel shape of the first floor window at 811 William has been hidden by aluminum siding but the doorway seems to have a segmentally arched lintel. At 813 William St. both the doorway and the first floor window have round arched lintels; at 815 William St. the window has a round-arched lintel but the doorway now has a flat lintel. And, finally, at 817 William St. all of the openings have segmentally arched lintels with scroll-sawed tympanums. The most logical assumption is that the two outside houses of the group, 811 and 817 William, had segmentally arched lintels on all openings, while the inner pair of houses had flat lintels on the upper floors but round-arched lintels on the first floor openings, thus creating a variation in the rhythm of the design of the unit. All of the window openings are filled with 1/1 double hung sash. The houses also show a mixed array of door types. 811 William St. has a Mission-style door, 813 has a modern flush door, 815 has a glass and panel door, and 817 has a modern flush door. Each door is set beneath a single light transom. The houses sit on fairly high basements, the entrances being reached by five marble steps at 811, five brick steps at 813, four brick steps at 815, and two marble steps at 817 William St. Each house has a rectangular basement opening located beneath the first floor window.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

B-3155

| PERIOD  | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS              | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION              | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES 1856-1857

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Isaac Tyson

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This row of houses is particularly interesting as an example of a very early use of shed-roof construction. The fact that the houses were built with shed roofs can be seen in Sachse's 1858 Bird's Eye View of Baltimore, where the houses look just as they do today. The row was built by the same developer who built the larger houses to the north, at 801-809 William St. These houses were designed to appeal to the same middle-class market as the earlier houses and attest to the builder's sensitivity to changing tastes in architectural style. It is to be assumed that the houses when built had fashionable Victorian bracketed cornices, though none remain today. In floor plan the houses are essentially the same as their gable-roofed predecessors--with the stair hall located in a separate section to the rear of the main house, communicating both with the front room and the rear kitchen and dining area.

The first owner of 813 William St. was a Capt. James Creighton. William Addison, Sr., a carpenter, and his son William, Jr., who operated a brickyards at the foot of Leadenhall St., lived at 817 William St.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Baltimore City Directory, 1858-59, 1860

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

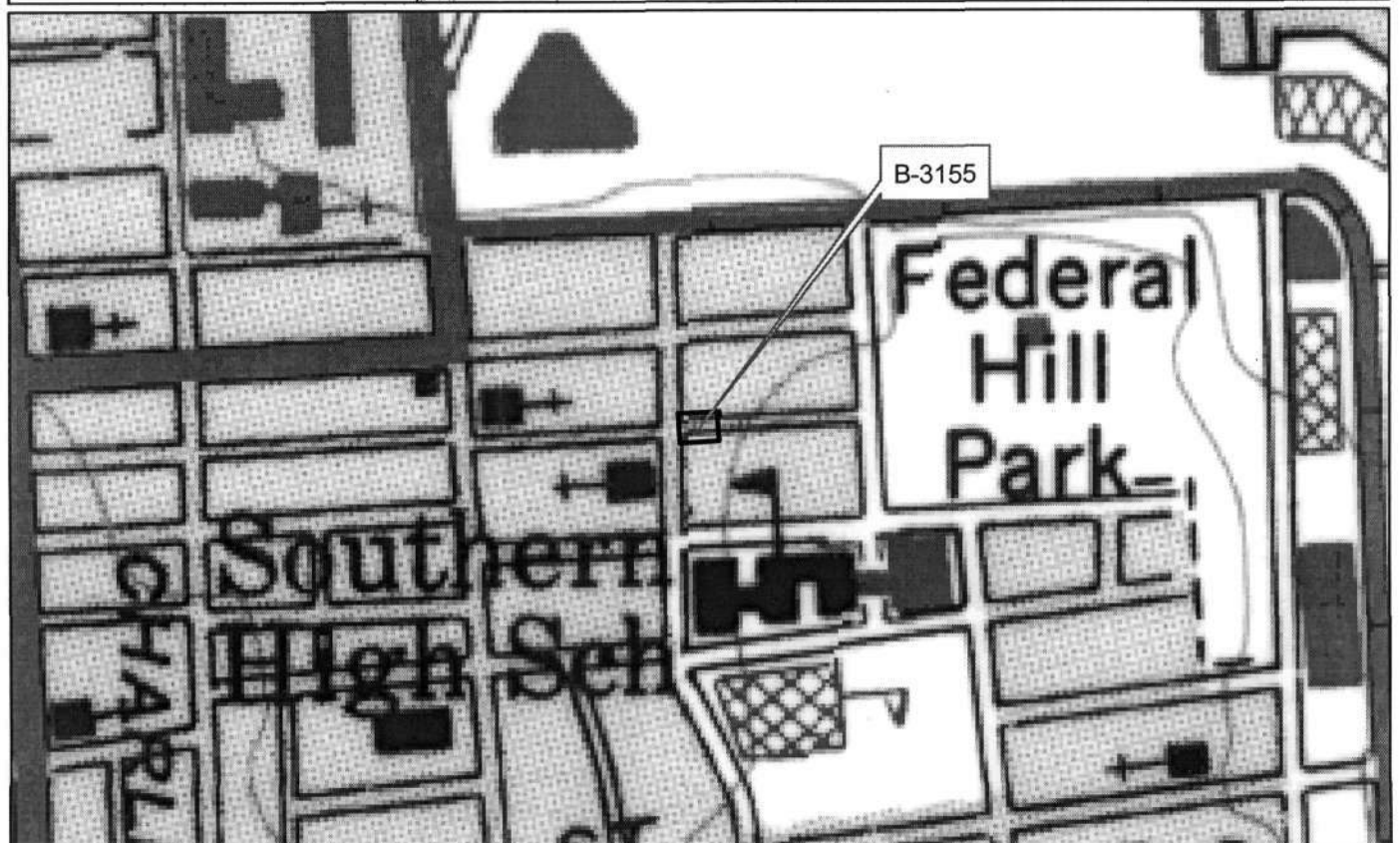
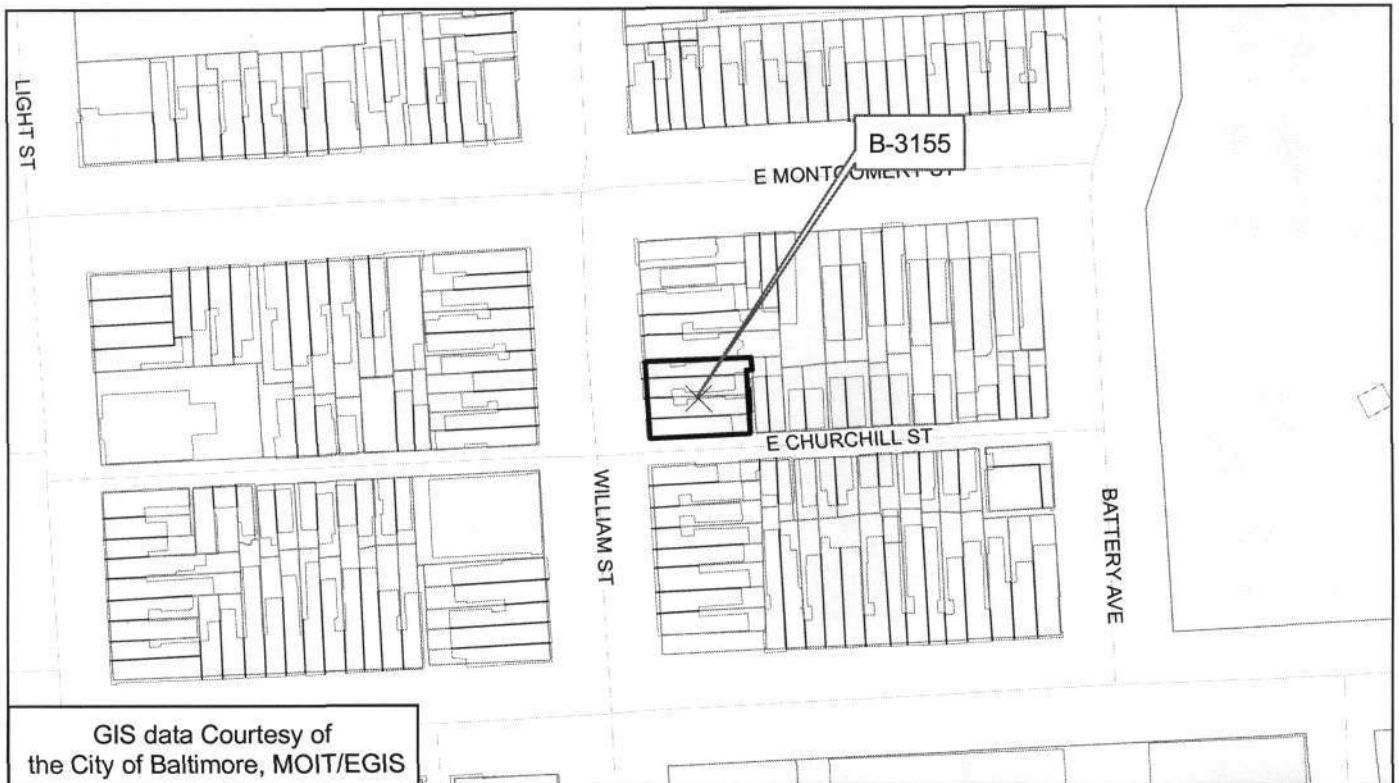
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438





B-3155  
811-817 William Street  
Block 0907 Lot 006-009  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.







B-3155      811-817 William St.

M.E.H.      4/79

West elevation